



December 2008

Platte County News



Platte County FSA
1502 Progress Court
Wheatland, WY 82201
307-322-4050 (phone)
307-322-4109 (FAX)

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Larry Cundall
Ruthie Cundall
Dave Hinman
Darrel Vaughn

Staff
Mike Hoffland DD
Dixie Mount FLO
Rick Carroll CED
Celia Herman PT
Mitzi Mudgett PT
Joni Reyes PT



Platte County Has Been Approved For ECP

Platte County has been approved for Emergency Conservation Program for flood damage for the 2008 program year. Platte county FSA office will be taking applications starting Monday January 5th through Tuesday February 3rd 2009. The sign up period will be for 30 days.

Platte County is requesting that you call for an appointment to discuss with the County Office your loss caused by the flood. The flood occurred May 24th through the 28th. If you had extensive damage because of this flood you may contact the County Office for information on Cost share that you may be eligible for. The majority of losses were on Horseshoe Creek and Cotton Wood Creek.

Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP)

April 1st Last Day to Sign Up Spring Seeded Crops for NAP Coverage.

Producers you may bring into the County Office your production for the 2008 crop year.

Production records are important to maintain your county (APH) yield for you operation. The final date for the turning in production evidence for 2008 is July 1st 2009.

COC Election

Congratulations to Britt Wilson newly elected COC member from LAA #1.

Election Results for Administrative Area #1 are:

Britt Wilson- Elected to the County Committee (COC)

Beverly Ranee Smathers- 1st Alternate to COC

Doug Derouchy- 2nd Alternate to COC

Britt will be replacing Larry Cundall on the COC Board. Our thanks to Larry Cundall for his service to Platte County on the COC. Britt will begin his term in January 2009.

Attention all Buyers of Agricultural Products

It is required that buyers of agricultural products check or register with the Secretary of State's Office to determine if there are liens against the Seller of the product. If a lien is found you are required to place the lien holders name on the check as well as that of the Seller. Ag Products include but are not limited to: livestock (including horses), crops used for feed (hay, silage, oats, etc.), machinery, equipment and all other crops. **Failure to place the lien holder's name on the check may result in civil legal action being taken against the Buyer of the product. Protect yourself as a Buyer!** You may contact the Secretary of State's Office at 1-307-777-7311.

Sign Up for 2009 Conservation Programs Now

Agricultural producers are encouraged to submit applications for fiscal year 2009 conservation programs at their local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office. The NRCS office in Wheatland will be accepting program applications until January 16, 2009. Eligible applications may be considered for funding for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), and the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). Applications received after January 16 will be deferred for consideration at a future date as funding becomes available.

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. EQIP provides financial incentives to install or implement structural and management conservation practices on eligible agricultural land. Examples of how EQIP may be used to improve the health of the land include:

- Grazing lands practices such as cross-fencing and water development. This includes wells, springs, remote solar pumps, water tanks, etc.
- Converting cropland to permanent grazing land
- Windbreak establishment
- Invasive specie removal (Russian olive and salt cedar)
- Livestock waste management systems
- Irrigation system improvement such as sprinklers, pipelines and gated pipe

We have 2 new incentive opportunities this year in Platte County:

- **Energy Conservation:** these are no-till, strip-till and minimum-till incentives to encourage tillage reduction and soil conservation. Producers interested in adopting reduced tillage systems will be offered per acre incentive payments through the EQIP program.
- **Erosion Control:** this is funding for flood damage repair and erosion control practices such as stream bank stabilization, irrigation structure repair, gully erosion stabilization, etc.

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) offers incentive payments for the creation of high quality wildlife habitats through projects that support state and local priorities.

The Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) offers landowners assistance to restore and protect wetlands and associated uplands through permanent easements, 30-year easements, and cost-share only restoration agreements. The program is designed to achieve maximum wetland functions and values while obtaining optimum wildlife habitat.

Applications are available at the USDA Service Center at 1502 Progress Court in Wheatland. For more information call (307) 322-9060 or go to www.wy.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/index.html.

Reasonable Accommodations:

Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or learning to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require accommodations to attend or participate in one of our events, Please call the FSA county office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements.

Non-Recourse Marketing Assistance Loan

Marketing assistance loans provide producers interim financing at harvest time to meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices are typically at harvest-time lows. Allowing producers to store production at harvest facilitates more orderly marketing of commodities throughout the year.

Market loan repayment provisions specify, under certain circumstances, that producers may repay loans at less than principal plus accrued interest and other charges. Alternatively, loan deficiency payment (LDP) provisions specify that, in lieu of securing a loan, producers may be eligible for an LDP.

2008 Loan Rate for Hard Red Winter Wheat: \$2.81 per bushel
Corn: \$2.02 per bushel

2008 December Interest Rate was: \$2.25

Final Loan Availability Date for a Corn Loan: May 31st, 2009
Final Loan Availability Date for a Wheat Loan: March 31st, 2009

Signature Authority for Spouses

Spouses:

- May sign documents on behalf of each other for FSA and CCC programs in which either has an interest, effective August 1, 1992, unless written notification denying a spouse this authority has been provided to the County Office.
- Shall not sign FSA-211 on behalf of the other
- Shall not sign on behalf of the other as an authorized signatory for partnerships, joint ventures, corporations, or other similar entities.

Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA with 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, Realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PLATTE COUNTY FSA OFFICE
1502 PROGRESS COURT
WHEATLAND, WY 82201**

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

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| December 25 th and 26 th | Office Closed to observe Christmas |
| January 5, 2009 | ECP Signup Begins |
| January 19, 2009 | Office Closed to Observe Martin Luther King Day |
| February 3 rd Last Day ECP | Last day to enroll in the ECP Program for Cost/Share |
| Continues | Continuous CRP sign up |
| Continues | Farm Stored Facility Loan Program |
| February 16, 2009 | Office Closed to Observe Presidents Day |
| April 1 2009 | Last Day to enroll Spring Seeded NAP Crops |
| March 31,2009 | Last day for commodity loan on Barley, Oats and Wheat |
| May 31, 2009 | Last day for commodity loan on Corn |

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<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

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